[5th August 1932

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" How many members of these boards are themselves authors or publishers of books? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I want notice."

Amalgamation of Muslim and non-Muslim schools in the Saidapet Municipality.

* 129 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: " Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether any Muslim Association of Saidapet has sent any representation to the Government on the amalgamation by the Chairman of the Saidapet Municipality of Muslim with non-Muslim schools in his municipality?

A.—Yes.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the hon. Minister knows that this was the only Muslim school that has been amalgamated and in view of the Muslim Education Committee and their recommendation that this amalgamation should wait, will the Government put off the amalgamation? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The matter has been referred to the Chairman and on receipt of his reply the matter will be carefully considered."

Excise

Exemption of clerks in the Excise Department from the rule regarding height for appointment as Excise Sub-Inspectors.

* 130 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the rules made by the Madras Services Commission do not contain any exemption with regard to exemption of height rules of clerks already employed in the Excise Department being appointed as Sub-Inspectors in the Excise Department;

(*b*) whether any memorial has been received from the Non-Gazetted Excise Officers with regard to the hardship caused by the present rules; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that exemptions have been granted to a certain number of clerks who have been deemed fit to act as Sub-Inspectors before May 1931, and if so, whether such exemption does not hold good in respect of those to whom they were granted till they have been actually appointed to the post ?

A.—(*a*) The Government are not aware of any rules made by the Madras Services Commission on the subject. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Statutory Rules issued by Government for the Madras Excise Subordinate Service published at pages 644–647 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 19th May 1931. No person is eligible for appointment as Sub-Inspector of Excise unless he possesses the qualifications prescribed in rule 5 (*c*) of these rules.

(b) The Madras Non-Gazetted Excise Officers' Association made a representation.

(c) The answer to the first part of the clause is in the affirmative. The exemptions granted ceased to be valid when the Statutory Rules referred to in the answer to clause (a) came into force, unless the clerks had been appointed Sub-Inspectors before the issue of these rules.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether it has not been working as a hardship in respect of clerks who have joined the department before or in 1931 in the prospect of being appointed as Sub-Inspectors? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Statutory rules have to be adhered to. There is no provision for any exemption at all."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know what consideration the Government propose to give to the representations made by the Madras Non-Gazetted Excise Officers' Association? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Notice."

Proposal to re-open the toddy and arrack shops in Tiruchengodu and Rasipur taluks.

* 131 *Q.*—K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to re-open the toddy and arrack shops that were closed in Tiruchengodu and Rasipur taluks some time ago;

(b) if so, which are the shops to be re-opened;

(c) what the reasons are for re-opening these shops;

(d) whether the Commissioner of Excise has been to these taluks and enquired into the matter;

(e) what the result is of the enquiry;

(f) if the answer to clause (d) be in the affirmative, why no intimation was sent to the District Representatives in the Legislative Council to be present at the enquiry; and

(g) whether a copy of the Commissioner's order on the enquiry will be placed on the table with the copies of the connected papers which led the Commissioner to pass such an order?

A.—(a) The Commissioner of Excise has made such a proposal.

(b) The Commissioner has proposed the re-opening of all the arrack and toddy shops in those parts of the taluks of Tiruchengodu and Namakkal and in that part of the sub-taluk of Rasipur which were constituted as a 'dry' area in the Salem district.

(c) The shops have not yet been re-opened. The proposal is under the consideration of Government.

(d) Yes.